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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
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10/661,503

09/15/2003

Yuji Hikawa

117186

7409

25944 7590 04/10/2008

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ALEXANDRIA, VA 22320-4850

EXAMINER

LEE, PHILIP C

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

2152

MAIL DATE

DELIVERY MODE

04/10/2008

PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

1. The request for reconsideration has been entered and considered but it is not persuasive.

2. In the remarks, applicant argued that:

(1) Claims 1, 2 and 5-17 claim statutory subject matter because they claim a machine.

(2) Yaung does not teach including at least “a notice part that sends a notice *during the progress* of the multiple processings based on content recited in the notice conditioned data.

3. In response to point (1), according to the cited section in the specification (page 3, lines 23-25; page 4, lines 9-11), “A service processing system” of claims 1-2 and “A job management device” of claims 5-17 are intended to be used in a network. The “service processing system” and “job management device” do not inherently mean the claims are directed to a machine. If at least one of the claim elements of the system or device is a physical part of a device (hardware element) can the system as claimed constitute part of the device or a combination of device to be a machine. Since the “service processing system” and “job management device” do not include any hardware elements of a system, the “service processing system” and “job management device” are considered as only software (i.e., software per se), which is not one of the categories of statutory subject matter.

4. In response to point (2), Yaung teaches sending a notice (315, fig. 9) during the progress of the multiple process (i.e., during the execution of each of the nodes (312, fig. 9) in a workflow

shown in figure 9) based on contents recited in the notice condition data (col. 6, lines 9-13, 27-34; col. 7, lines 55-59).

5. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Philip C Lee whose telephone number is (571)272-3967. The examiner can normally be reached on 8 AM TO 5:30 PM Monday to Thursday and every other Friday. If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Bunjob Jaroenchonwanit can be reached on (571) 272-3913. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

P.L.